

Women and Child Welfare Centres

3494. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women and child development welfare centres in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of such centres proposed to be opened during the years 2006-07 and 2007-08, State-wise;

(c) whether the States including Maharashtra has submitted any proposal to Government to open more centres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) There are no women and child development welfare centres in the country under Ministry of Women and Child Development.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Impracticability of Palna Scheme

†3495. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently announced scheme "Palna" for unwanted girl child is not only impractical but misconceived also;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many organizations have opposed the scheme pertaining success of the said scheme;

(c) if not, Government's intention and nation-wide preparedness behind the said scheme;

(d) whether Government would consider on implementing a programme to provide free basic amenities like education and health right from the birth of girls; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) of which 'Palna' is component, has been formulated on the basis of consultations with State Government and voluntary Organisations. A balanced view has been taken on all suggestions received on the scheme.

(c) to (e) The policy of Government of India is to promote survival of the girl child. The Ministry of women and Child Development has formulated a 'Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme' for implementation during the Eleventh Plan Period which seeks to provide cash incentives for parents to ensure the survival and education of the girl child through the fulfilment of certain conditionalities.

Status of chairperson of NCW

3496. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairperson of National Commission for Women has a status lower than other commissions including the National Commission for Children;

(b) whether the status of the members of the Commission is also lower than those of other commissions including the National Commission for Children;

(c) if so, whether Government consider these as discriminatory; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating to upgrade the status of Chairperson and members of the National Commission for Women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Information regarding the status of Chairperson and Members of National Commission for Women and similar commissions, including National Commission for Children, is given in the enclosed Statement. (See below)

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No proposal is under consideration in this regard.